

A New Species of *Graptocorixa* from Mexico

(Heteroptera, Corixidae)

Antti Jansson

Department of Zoology, University of Helsinki,
P. Rautatiekatu 13, SF-00100 Helsinki 10, Finland

When identifying miscellaneous Mexican Corixidae I found a species of *Graptocorixa* which did not agree with any of the descriptions in Hungerford (1948). This new species is described herein and compared to other species of the genus.

Graptocorixa breweri, new species

Size: Length 7.5-8.5 mm, width across head 2.3-2.7 mm.

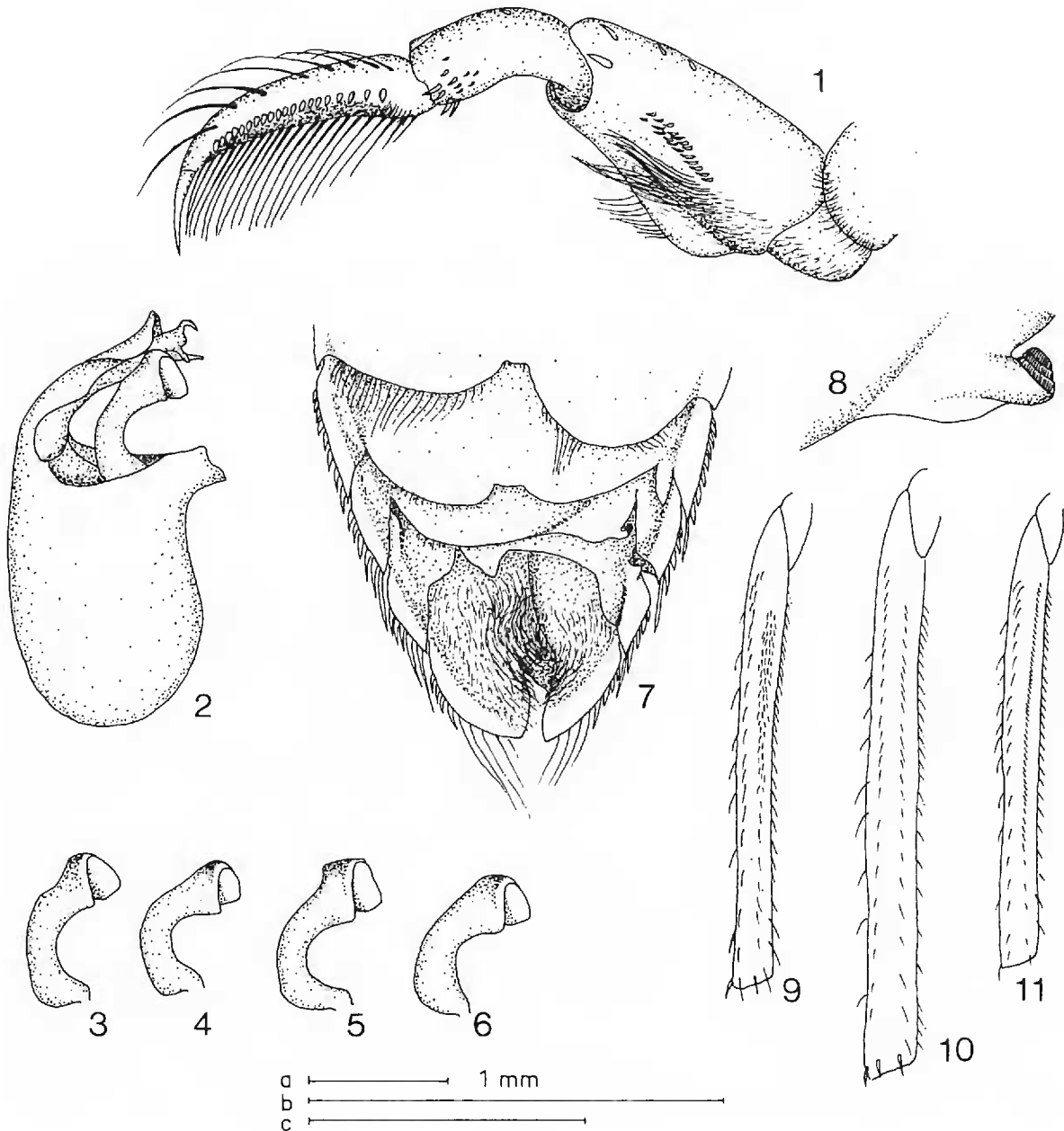
Color: General facies medium to dark brown, head and legs yellow, mesosternum and metasternum smoky to black. Abdominal venter smoky to black in males, yellowish in females. Pronotum crossed by 8-10 dark bands which are anteriorly broader but posteriorly narrower than the yellow bands. Transverse yellow bands of hemelytra generally regular, but somewhat broken in the middle of corium.

Structural characteristics: Face not reduced, frontal depression of male shallow and broad, slightly hairy; face of female also slightly hairy. Infraocular portions of genae broad as seen in cephalic view. Rear margins of eyes slightly concave. Prothoracic lobe elongate. The lower basal angle of fore femur conspicuously produced and anteriorly covered by a patch of long hairs in male, somewhat produced and with a few hairs in female. The pala of male as in Fig. 1, possessing about 20 pegs. Length of middle leg femur : tibia : tarsus : claw = 100 : 32 : 29 : 27. Length of hind leg femur : tibia : tarsus 1 : tarsus 2 = 100 : 98 : 120 : 41. Metaxyphus slightly longer than broad. The male genital capsule as in Fig. 2, with Figs. 3-6 showing variation in shape of the right paramere (= clasper). Male abdominal dorsum with a posteriorly pointing fingerlike projection near the right margin of the fifth tergite, and a small dorsolaterally pointing projection at outer base of the right penultimate lobe (= seventh tergite) (Fig. 7). Strigil minute, with three combs (Fig. 8).

In Hungerford's (1948) key for identification of *Graptocorixa* species *G. breweri* ends up near *G. serrulata* (Uhler) and *G. gerhardi* (Hungerford). Clear differences between the three species appear in both sexes in arrangement of caudo-ventral pegs of middle femora: *G. breweri* has a multiple row of small pegs (Fig. 9), while *G. gerhardi* has a single row of rather slender, basally almost hair-like pegs (Fig. 10) and *G. serrulata* a closely set row of small but sturdy pegs (Fig. 11). In males clear differences also appear in shape of the right paramere, and only males of *G. breweri* have a patch of long hairs on fore femora. Further, while males of *G. breweri* have both the fingerlike projection on the fifth abdominal tergite and the small projection at the base of the right penultimate lobe, males of *G. gerhardi* have only the former and males of *G. serrulata* only the latter.

Etymology: The species is named simply according to the collector of the specimens that first caught my attention.

Holotype (male): Mexico, Zacatecas, 25 mi. W. Fresnillo, Laguna Balderama, 7900 ft., 23.VI.1954, R.H. Brewer. Deposited in the col-



Figs. 1-9: *Graptocorixa breweri*. Fig. 1. Front leg of male. Fig. 2. Genital capsule of male. Figs. 3-6. Variation in shape of the right paramere. Figs. 3-4. Zacatecas. Fig. 5. Michoacan. Fig. 6. Hidalgo. Fig. 7. Dorsal view of male abdomen. Fig. 8. Strigil. Fig. 9. Middle femur of female. Fig. 10. *G. gerhardi*, middle femur of female. Fig. 11. *G. serrulata*, middle femur of female. — Scale lines (1 mm) apply as follows: a = Figs. 7 and 9-11, b = Fig. 8, c = Figs. 1-6.

lections of the California Academy of Sciences.

Paratypes: 6♂♂ and 5♀♀, same data as the holotype (deposited in the collections of the California Academy of Sciences and Zoological Museum, University of Helsinki); 1♂ and 3♀♀, otherwise same data as the holotype, but collected on 21.VI.1954 (Calif. Acad. Sci. collections).

Data on distribution: Besides the type series, I have seen the following: 1♀, Mexico, Zacatecas, 45 mi W Fresnillo, 7700 ft., 25.VI.1954,

R.H. Brewer (Calif. Acad. Sci.); 3♂♂ and 2♀♀, Mexico, Zacatecas, 10 mi NW of Sombarete, 7700 ft., 1.VII.1954, R.H. Brewer (Calif. Acad. Sci. and Univ. Helsinki); 2♀♀, Mexico, Durango, 35 mi SW El Salto, 8400 ft., 23.VII.1953, Univ. Kansas Mexican Expedition, Slesnick Field No. 73 (Snow Entomological Museum, Univ. Kansas); 2♂♂ and 1♀ Mexico, Hidalgo, Tasquillo, 23.VI.1955, R.E. Beer & party (Univ. Kansas); 1♀, Mexico, Michoacan, Morelia, 4.IX.1938, H.D. Thomas (Univ. Kansas), and 1♂, Mexico, Michoacan, 15 mi S of Carapan, 7.XII.1948, H.B. Leech collector (Calif. Acad. Sci.).

In general, *G. breweri* seems to be restricted to the central highlands of Mexico, and is probably rather common in this area. In the various collections it might have been overlooked as *G. gerhardi*, because the two have rather similar general appearance.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to the following for loan of material: Dr. D.C. Rentz (California Academy of Sciences) and Dr. P.D. Ashlock (University of Kansas).

Literature Cited

Hungerford, H.B. 1948. The Corixidae of the Western Hemisphere (Hemiptera). Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull., 32: 1-827.